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DETAILED ACTION

Status of Claims

Claims 1-18 remain for examination.

In the BPAI decision marked 4/8/2010, the previous rejection of claims 12-13 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shouheng Sun et al (NPL: Science, Vol.287, P1989, 2000, thereafter S287) in view of Bonnemann et al (US 5,308,377, thereafter US'377) is affirmed; and

the previous rejection of claims 14-18 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over S287 in view of US'377 and further in view of Bonnemann et al (US 6,531,304, thereafter US'304) is affirmed.

Status of the Previous Rejections

The previous rejection of claims 1-2, 5-7, and 9 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shouheng Sun et al (NPL: Science, Vol.287, P1989, 2000, thereafter S287) in view of Bonnemann et al (US 5,308,377, thereafter US'377) is withdrawn in view the BPAI decision marked 4/8/2010.

The previous rejection of claim 10 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over S287 in view of US'377, and further in view of the admitted prior art (Specification, page 2, Lines 5-13) is withdrawn in view the BPAI decision marked 4/8/2010.

The previous rejection of claims 3-4, 8, and 11 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over S287 in view of US'377, and further in view of Bonnemann et al (US 6,531,304, thereafter US'304) is withdrawn in view the BPAI decision marked 4/8/2010.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

The claims 12-18 are cancelled in view of the BPAI decision marked 4/8/2010.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-11 are allowed. The reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter can refer to the BPAI decision marked 4/8/2010.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jie Yang whose telephone number is 571-2701884.

The examiner can normally be reached on IFP.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Roy King can be reached on 571-2721244. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

JΥ

/ Roy King/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1793